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HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF PRINCIPAL AND AGENT. Francis B. Tiffany. St. Paul: West Publishing Co. 1903. pp. xiii, 609.

This volume is one of the "Hornbook Series" professedly designed for the presentation of the elementary principles of given subjects to the student rather than the practitioner. It possesses the usual typographical features of the series,—a synopsis of the law of the subject running through the book in the form of scattered black-letter paragraphs, amplified by more extended comment. These features will endear the book to those students who yearn for a cram book just before the annual or the bar examinations.

The field covered by the author is limited to that part of the general topic of Agency, which he classifies under the head of Principal and Agent, and excludes the discussion of the law of Master and Servant. His defense of this course is his desire to treat the subject-matter with greater fulness than would have been possible had he attempted to cover the entire field, and his anxiety to avoid the discussion of questions covered by other volumes in the Hornbook Series. However expedient this course may be from the standpoint of the publisher it does not enhance the value of the treatise to one who wishes to familiarize himself with the broad fundamental doctrines of the subject of Agency. Notwithstanding the difference in the meaning of the words "agency" and "service," the law of each, according to what seems to be the more rational view, is one and the same.

The severest criticism to be made of the book is its entire lack of originality, not only in arrangement and plan, but also in its detailed treatment of the questions as they arise. The author in his preface frankly acknowledges his debt to Prof. Mechem, Prof. Huffcut and Prof. Wambaugh; and the most casual reader of the book will see the justice of this acknowledgment. Upon closing the volume the reviewer must feel that its publication has scarcely filled any long felt want other than that of the West Publishing Company to add another volume to its Hornbook series. The work will not prove nearly so helpful to the student as Prof. Huffcutt's admirable little book, nor so satisfactory to the practitioner as Prof. Mechem's treatise. The author shows to the best advantage in his discussion of "Irrevocable Authority," and one could wish that he might have treated all the topics with the same freedom. The citations appear to have been made with more than the usual discrimination, although, in common with the vast majority of the text-book writers, the author does not exercise the necessary care in distinguishing decisions from *dicta*.